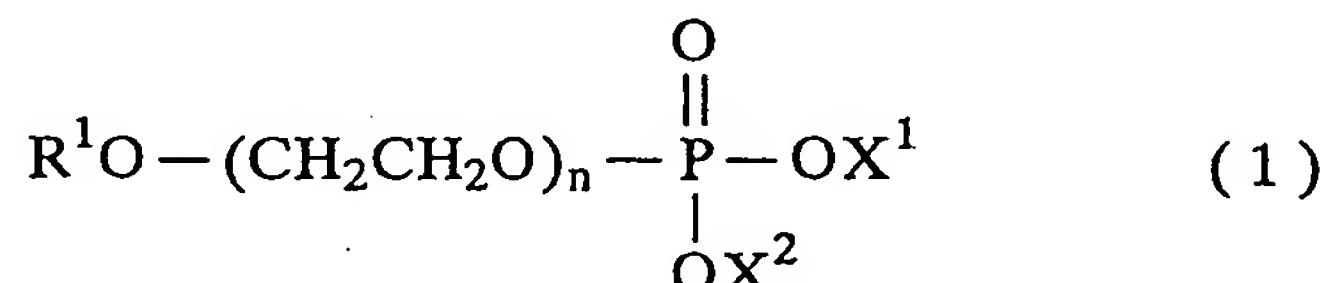


## **CLAIMS**

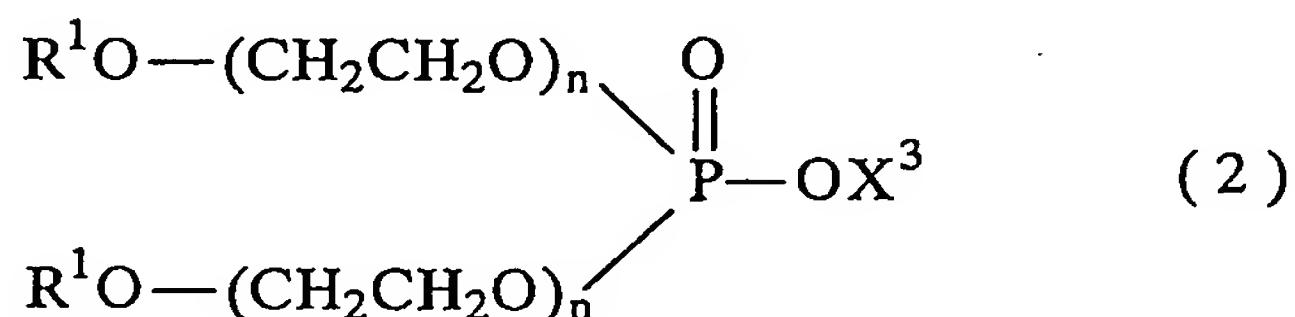
1. A cleanser composition which is weakly acidic and comprises the following components (a) and (b) in a (a)/(b) ratio of from 65/35 to 90/10 by weight:

(a) a phosphate monoester represented by the general formula  
(1) or a salt thereof:



wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents an alkyl or alkenyl group containing 9 to 15 carbon atoms on average with a branching degree of 10% or more, X<sup>1</sup> and X<sup>2</sup> each represent a hydrogen atom or an alkali metal, and n is a number of 0 to 5 which refers to the number of ethylene oxide units added on average,

(b) a phosphate diester represented by the general formula (2)  
or a salt thereof:



wherein R<sup>1</sup> and n each have the same meaning as defined above, and X<sup>3</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or an alkali metal.

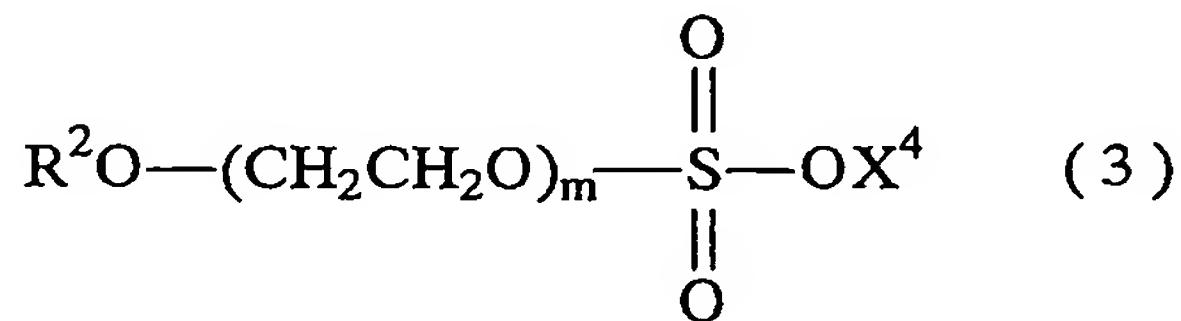
2. The cleanser composition according to claim 1, which exhibits a pH value of 4.5 to 6.5 upon dilution at a concentration of 5% by weight with deionized water.

### 3. The cleanser composition according to claim 1 or 2.

wherein the total amount of the components (a) and (b) is 3 to 50% by weight.

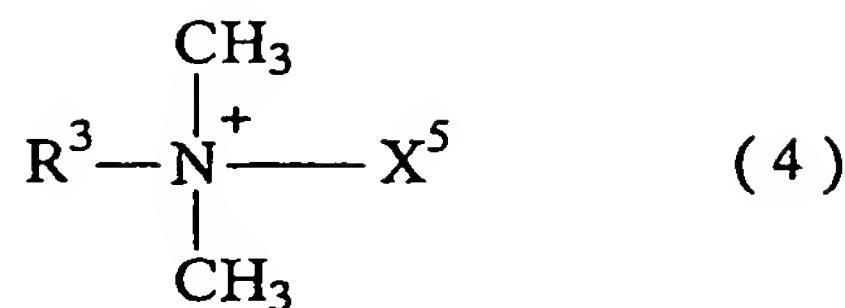
4. The cleanser composition according to claim 1, which further comprises at least one co-surfactant (referred to hereinafter as component (c)) selected from the group consisting of an alkyl ethoxylate sulfate, a betaine-type surfactant, a fatty acid or a salt thereof, an amine oxide, an isethionic acid-based surfactant, a sugar-based surfactant, an alkanol amide, an N-acylamino acid salt and an N-acyl-N-methyl taurine salt.

5. The cleanser composition according to claim 4, which comprises, as said component (c), at least one member selected from the group consisting of the following (c-1) to (c-9):  
(c-1) an alkyl ethoxylate sulfate represented by the general formula (3):



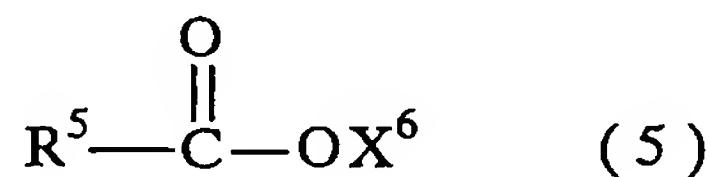
wherein R<sup>2</sup> represents a linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl group containing 10 to 18 carbon atoms on average, X<sup>4</sup> represents an alkali metal, and m is a number of 0 to 10 indicating the number of ethylene oxide units added on average.

(c-2) a betaine-type surfactant represented by the general formula (4):



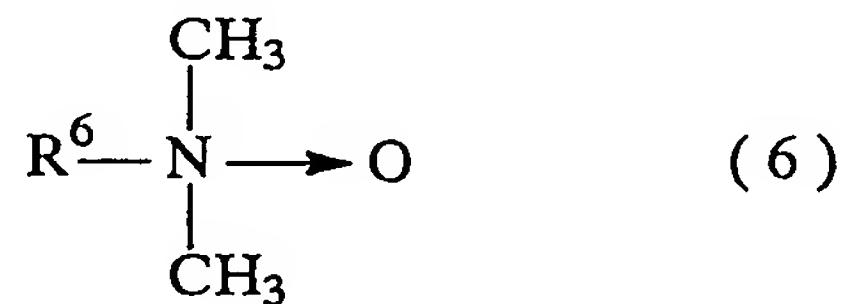
wherein  $\text{R}^3$  represents an alkyl or alkenyl group containing 8 to 18 carbon atoms on average or an acyl amino alkyl group represented by the formula  $\text{R}^4\text{CONH}(\text{CH}_2)_a^-$  whereupon  $\text{R}^4\text{CO}$  represents an acyl group containing 8 to 18 carbon atoms on average and  $a$  is an integer of 2 to 4, and  $\text{X}^5$  represents a  $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{OH})\text{CH}_2\text{SO}_3^-$  group or a  $-\text{CH}_2\text{COO}^-$  group.

(c-3) a fatty acid or a salt thereof represented by the general formula (5) :



wherein  $\text{R}^5$  represents a linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl group containing 9 to 17 carbon atoms on average, and  $\text{X}^6$  represents a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal,  $\text{NH}_4$  or alkanol ammonium.

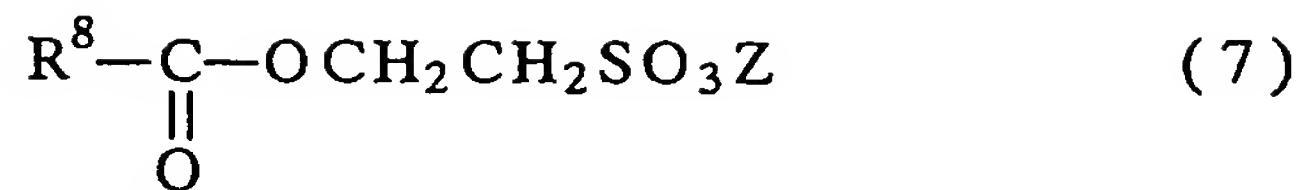
(c-4) an amine oxide represented by the general formula (6) :



wherein  $\text{R}^6$  represents a linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl group containing 8 to 18 carbon atoms on average or an acyl amino alkyl group represented by the formula  $\text{R}^7\text{CONH}(\text{CH}_2)_b^-$  whereupon  $\text{R}^7\text{CO}$  represents an acyl group containing 8 to 18 carbon atoms on average and  $b$  is an integer of 2 to 4.

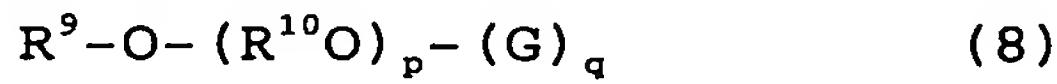
(c-5) an isethionic acid-based surfactant represented by the

general formula (7) :



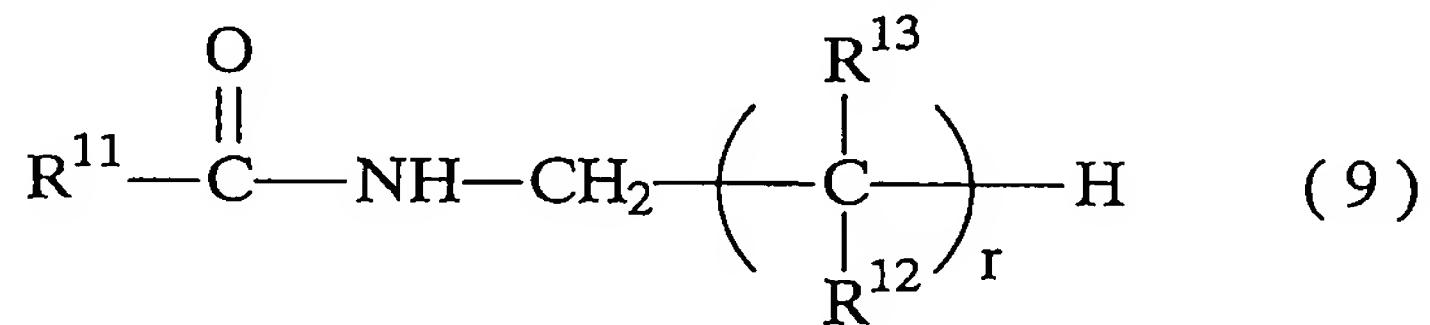
wherein R<sup>8</sup> represents a linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl group containing 9 to 17 carbon atoms on average, and Z represents a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal, NH<sub>4</sub>, or alkanol ammonium.

(c-6) a sugar-based surfactant represented by the general formula (8) :



wherein R<sup>9</sup> represents a linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl group containing 8 to 18 carbon atoms on average, R<sup>10</sup> represents an alkylene group containing 2 to 4 carbon atoms, G represents a residue derived from a reducing sugar containing 5 to 6 carbon atoms, p is a number of 0 to 10 indicating the number of alkylene oxide units added on average, and q is a number of 1 to 10 indicating the average condensation degree of the reducing sugar.

(c-7) an alkanol amide represented by the general formula (9) :



wherein R<sup>11</sup> represents a linear or branched alkyl or alkenyl group containing 7 to 17 carbon atoms on average, R<sup>12</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, R<sup>13</sup> represents a hydroxyl group or a hydrogen atom, r is a number of 1 to 5, and (R<sup>12</sup>)<sub>r</sub>

groups and  $(R^{13})_r$  groups may be the same or different, respectively, provided that one of  $(R^{13})_r$  groups is a hydroxyl group.

(c-8) an N-acylamino acid salt having an acyl group containing 8 to 18 carbon atoms on average, and

(c-9) an N-acyl-N-methyl taurine salt having an acyl group containing 8 to 18 carbon atoms on average.

6. The cleanser composition according to claim 4 or 5, wherein the content of the component (c) is 0.5 to 20% by weight.